HLS 09RS-1464 **ORIGINAL**

Regular Session, 2009

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 93

BY REPRESENTATIVE PETERSON

ENVIRONMENT: Establishes the Louisiana Climate Change Policy Commission

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To create the Louisiana Climate Change Policy Commission; to provide for its membership;
3	to provide for its powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities; and to provide for
4	related matters.
5	WHEREAS, a growing number of states are taking significant actions on the issue
6	of climate change; and
7	WHEREAS, the continued review of global climate changes offers significant benefit
8	to Louisiana as well as aid in addressing the issue of climate change; and
9	WHEREAS, the quality of life for Louisiana citizens is extremely vulnerable to the
10	projected effects of climate changes which involve a rise in sea-level, the development and
11	dissemination of vector-borne diseases, as well as droughts and heat waves associated with
12	changes in climatic conditions; and
13	WHEREAS, in its report entitled "Danger & Opportunities: Implications of Climate
14	Change for Louisiana" (May, 1999), a study commission created pursuant to House
15	Concurrent Resolution No. 74 of the 1996 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana,
16	outlined Louisiana's unique environmental and economic vulnerabilities to global climate
17	change and identified mitigation options that " are cost effective and offer significant
18	economic opportunities for Louisiana, along with their environmental benefits."
19	THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
20	create the Louisiana Climate Change Policy Commission (hereafter "Commission"). The

CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.

1 Commission shall be composed of sixteen members who, unless otherwise specified, shall 2 be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the governor. The membership of the 3 Commission shall be selected as follows: 4 (1) The secretary of the Department of Environmental Quality or the secretary's 5 designee. 6 (2) The secretary of the Department of Natural Resources or the secretary's designee. 7 (3) The secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development or the 8 secretary's designee. 9 (4) The secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries or the secretary's 10 designee. 11 (5) The secretary of the Department of Economic Development or the secretary's 12 designee. 13 (6) The commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Forestry or the 14 commissioner's designee. 15 (7) The chair of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources or the chair's designee. 16 (8) The chair of the Senate Committee on Environmental Quality or the chair's 17 designee. 18 (9) The chair of the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment or the 19 chair's designee. 20 (10) The executive assistant of the Governor's Office of Coastal Activities or the 21 executive assistant's designee. 22 (11) The executive director of the Louisiana Recovery Authority or the executive 23 director's designee. 24 (12) Five members appointed by the governor from a list of professors nominated 25 by public postsecondary education institutions that offer academic degrees at the 26 baccalaureate level or higher and regionally accredited independent colleges or universities 27 that are a member of the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities. 28 Each such institution, college, or university may nominate three professors who teach in at

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1 least one of the following subjects: agriculture, coastal studies, economics, energy studies, 2 environmental studies, landscape planning, and natural resources. 3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the secretaries or their designee, of the 4 Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Natural Resources shall serve as co-chairs of the commission. All other officers, if any, shall be elected by the membership 5 6 of the commission. The commission shall meet monthly and at the call of the chairs. 7 Commission members shall not receive additional compensation; however, state officers or 8 employees may seek reimbursement of travel expenses, in accordance with PPM 49, from 9 their employing or elected department, agency, or office. Facilities for the meetings of the 10 commission shall be arranged by the Department of Environmental Quality. Support staff 11 for the commission shall be provided by the departments or agencies of the executive branch 12 as requested by the chairs of the commission. 13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the duties of the commission shall include but 14 are not limited to the following: 15 (1) Evaluating the policy considerations, goals, or objectives relevant to the 16 development, maintenance, or implementation of a comprehensive policy for the state of 17 Louisiana for climate change, particularly addressing the areas of carbon sequestration; 18 greenhouse gas reduction; diversification and improvement of energy systems; planning for 19 design, land use, and economic development relative to climate change mitigation and 20 environmental improvement; coordination of state and federal policies on climate change. 21 (2) Provide a public forum for the review and assessment of public and private 22

programs and projects that are aiding efforts in responding to climate change that include but are not limited to America's Energy Coast initiative, America's Wetland Initiative, Louisiana Greenhouse Gas Inventory, and state, federal, and private programs for energy efficiency, building design, and carbon sequestration.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commission shall submit a report of their work and their findings, along with any recommendations for legislation, to the governor, the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment, the Senate Committee on

- 1 Environmental Quality, and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources prior to the 2010
- 2 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Peterson HCR No. 93

Establishes the Louisiana Commission on Climate Change Policy with membership to be appointed by the governor as follows:

- (1) The secretary of the Dept. of Environmental Quality or the secretary's designee.
- (2) The secretary of the Dept. of Natural Resources or the secretary's designee.
- (3) The secretary of the Dept. of Transportation and Development or the secretary's designee.
- (4) The secretary of the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries or the secretary's designee.
- (5) The secretary of the Dept. of Economic Development or the secretary's designee.
- (6) The commissioner of the Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry or the commissioner's designee.
- (7) The chair of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources or the chair's designee.
- (8) The chair of the Senate Committee on Environmental Quality or the chair's designee.
- (9) The chair of the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment or the chair's designee.
- (10) The executive assistant of the Governor's Office of Coastal Activities, or the executive assistant's designee.
- (11) The executive director of the La. Recovery Authority or the executive director's designee.
- (12) Five members appointed by the governor from a list of professors nominated by the La. public and private colleges and universities. Each such institution, college, or university may nominate three professors who teach in at least one of the following subjects: agriculture, coastal studies, economics, energy studies, environmental studies, landscape planning, and natural resources.

Charges the commission with developing recommendations for climate change policy. Requires the commission to submit a report of their work and their findings, along with any recommendations for legislation, to the governor, the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment, the Senate Committee on Environmental Quality, and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources prior to the 2010 R.S.